



**Kurt E. Floren**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

*Department of  
Agricultural Commissioner/  
Weights and Measures*

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**Richard K. Iizuka**  
Chief Deputy

August 12, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

24 August 12, 2014

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**REQUEST APPROVAL AND AWARD OF MASTER AGREEMENTS  
WITH QUALIFIED VENDORS TO PROVIDE AS-NEEDED  
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
(ALL-DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Request approval to execute Master Agreements with qualified vendors to provide as-needed vegetation management services for the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (ACWM).

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Approve and authorize the Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures (Commissioner/Director), or his designee, to award and execute eight (8) Master Agreements, substantially similar to Attachment I, for the provision of as-needed vegetation management services with each of the eight (8) firms listed in Attachment II, effective upon execution, for an initial term of three years with two one-year extensions, at an annual aggregate cost not to exceed \$125,000 per year.
2. Authorize the Commissioner/Director, or his designee, to execute agreements with new vendors as the vendors become qualified throughout the term of the Master Agreement through the As-Needed Vegetation Management Services Request For Statement of Qualifications; exercise the renewal option extensions; execute individual work orders; suspend or terminate agreements for the administrative convenience of the County when vendors cease to be in administrative compliance (e.g., non-performance related issues, etc.) and add or delete Master Agreement Service Categories.

## **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

One of ACWM's missions is to provide essential fire prevention by abatement of hazardous vegetation throughout much of the County using County crews and vendors. The purpose of this recommendation is to augment ACWM's ability to effectively respond to special and urgent situations presented by dry weeds, brush, neglected landscaping and trees growing in very close proximity to homes. The recent, widespread drought has made it increasingly difficult to make predictions about the fire season and approval of this recommendation will help ACWM respond to unanticipated property clearance situations as well as other vegetation management challenges facing ACWM.

## **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This action supports the County's Strategic Plan Goals of:

- Goal 1: Operational Effectiveness – The use of vendors allows ACWM to effectively respond to the highly seasonal and increasingly unpredictable workload inherent in hazardous weed and brush removal. In addition, some of the work anticipated to be performed pursuant to the Master Agreements exceeds ACWM's existing equipment and vendor resources and capabilities.
- Goal 2: Fiscal Sustainability – ACWM's use of vendors for this critical public safety function allows for timely removal of hazardous weeds and brush with complete cost recovery for its enforcement efforts.
- Goal 3: Integrated Services Delivery – Timely removal of hazardous weeds and brush helps to protect the lives and property of many residents living in the areas covered by ACWM's Weed Abatement Program.

## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There is no net County cost. Any expenses incurred as a result of vendor payment pursuant to the Master Agreement are 100 percent recoverable through property tax liens and direct charges.

## **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The term of the recommended Master Agreements is three years with two one-year extension options. The Master Agreements will commence upon execution by the Commissioner/Director, or his designee.

Award of a Master Agreement does not guarantee a vendor any minimum amount of work. The County would incur an obligation only as individual work orders are issued. All active vendors can bid on services and receive work order availability notices released in the work categories for which the vendor has been pre-qualified. Work order awards will be made to the lowest priced qualified vendor and will include any established allowance for vendors qualifying for one of the County preference programs.

The services to be provided under these Master Agreements are of a seasonal, intermittent nature and, therefore, are not Proposition A contracts pursuant to County Code 2.121.250. The Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) requirements do not apply to the recommended agreements. The agreements contain all mandatory County contracting provisions and are in compliance with all Board and CEO requirements.

The terms and conditions of the Master Agreements have been approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

ACWM commenced solicitation for the Master Agreement by mailing an informational flyer to 277 potential vendors. The vendor mailing list was generated using vendors known to ACWM and who had previously contacted ACWM directly expressing an interest in vegetation management work. Master Agreements are an excellent way for small local businesses to obtain work from the County and ACWM made a direct attempt to outreach to small local businesses by searching online business guides like Yelp, Yellow Pages and other local business locating sources.

On April 1, 2014, ACWM released a Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) seeking qualified vendors to provide as-needed vegetation management services in support of its Weed Abatement Program. The RFSQ and associated documents were posted on ACWM's website as well as the ISD "Doing Business with Us" website. A copy of the Internet posting is attached pursuant to Section 3.5.1 of the Internal Services Department Services Contracting Manual (Attachment III).

The proper response to a RFSQ is a potential vendor's Statement of Qualifications (SOQ). ACWM received nine SOQs which were evaluated to ensure compliance with the minimum requirements. One of the vendors was disqualified for failure to provide evidence of insurance or proof of insurability. ACWM is recommending that the Board allow ACWM to enter into Master Agreements with the remaining eight.

None of the vendors, including the disqualified bidder, chose to pursue any stages of the protest process. ACWM will continue to accept SOQs from qualified vendors for the duration of the Master Agreement.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended Board action will augment ACWM's ability to effectively and timely respond to an increasingly unpredictable fire season and other vegetation management challenges.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

8/12/2014

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kurt E. Floren', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

KURT E. FLOREN

Agricultural Commissioner, Director of Weights  
and Measures

KEF:RKi:RBS:jb

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

**SAMPLE MASTER AGREEMENT**



**MASTER AGREEMENT**

**BY AND BETWEEN**

**The COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS  
AND MEASURES**

**AND**

**(CONTRACTOR)**

**FOR  
AS-NEEDED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

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**Sample Master Agreement**

**MASTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES,  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/  
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES  
AND**

\_\_\_\_\_

**FOR**

**AS-NEEDED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

This Master Agreement and Exhibits made and entered into this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ by and between the County of Los Angeles, Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights and Measures, hereinafter referred to as County and \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as Contractor, to provide as-needed vegetation management services in the following Service Categories:

- Category 1: General Vegetation Trimming, Abatement and Removal
- Category 2: General Vegetation and Light Tree Trimming, Abatement and Removal
- Category 3: General Vegetation and Large Tree Trimming, Abatement and Removal

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the County may contract with private businesses for Vegetation Management Services when certain requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor is a private firm specializing in providing Vegetation Management Services; and

WHEREAS, this Master Agreement is therefore authorized under both the California Health and Safety Code, section 14875, *et seq.* and section 2.121 of the Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has authorized the Director of the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (Commissioner), or designee, to execute and administer this Master Agreement; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and for good and valuable consideration, the parties agree to the following:

## **1. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS**

Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H are attached to and form a part of this Master Agreement. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency in the definition or interpretation of any word, responsibility, schedule, or the contents or description of any task, deliverable, goods, service, or other work, or otherwise between the base Master Agreement and the Exhibits, or between Exhibits, such conflict or inconsistency shall be resolved by giving precedence first to the Master Agreement and then to the Exhibits according to the following priority:

### **Standard Exhibits:**

- 1.1 EXHIBIT A - County's Administration
- 1.2 EXHIBIT B - Contractor's Administration
- 1.3 EXHIBIT C - Contractor's EEO Certification
- 1.4 EXHIBIT D - Jury Service Ordinance
- 1.5 EXHIBIT E - Safely Surrendered Baby Law
- 1.6 EXHIBIT F- Sample Work Order Formats
- 1.7 EXHIBIT G - Forms Required For Each Work Order Before Work Begins

### **Unique Exhibits:**

#### **Work Orders Executed Under this Master Agreement**

- 1.8 EXHIBIT H - Subsequent Executed Work Orders

This Master Agreement and the Exhibits hereto constitute the complete and exclusive statement of understanding between the parties, and supersedes all previous Master Agreements, written and oral, and all communications between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Master Agreement. No change to this Master Agreement shall be valid unless prepared pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.1 - Amendments and signed by both parties.

## 2.0 DEFINITIONS

The headings herein contained are for convenience and reference only and are not intended to define the scope of any provision thereof. The following words as used herein shall be construed to have the following meaning, unless otherwise apparent from the context in which they are used.

- 2.1 **Active Contractor:** Identifies a Qualified Contractor who is in compliance with the terms and conditions and whose evidence of insurance requirements have all been received by the Department and are valid and in effect at the time of a given Work Order award. As used herein, the terms Active Contractor and Contractor may be used interchangeably throughout this document.
- 2.2 **Approved:** shall mean that sanction of method or means has been granted by the Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures unless otherwise defined.
- 2.3 **Brush:** shall mean perennial, often woody and dense, plant growth comprised of any combination of native plant species, exotic invasive and escaped/neglected landscaping. Brush shall also include tree bramble, understory and limbs/branches up to six inches in diameter and six feet from the ground
- 2.4 **Commissioner:** shall refer to the Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures of the County of Los Angeles.
- 2.5 **Contractor Project Manager:** The individual designated by the Contractor to administer the Master Agreement operations after the Master Agreement award.

- 2.6 **County:** shall refer to the County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures.
- 2.7 **County Master Agreement Program Director (MAPD):** shall mean the person designated by Director with authority to negotiate and recommend all changes on behalf of County.
- 2.8 **County Project Director:** Person designated by Director with authority to approve all Work Order solicitations and executions.
- 2.9 **County Project Manager:** Person designated as chief contact person with respect to the day-to-day administration of the Master Agreement.
- 2.10 **County's Work Order Directors:** Responsible for coordinating and monitoring the Work Order.
- 2.11 **Day(s):** Calendar day(s) unless otherwise specified.
- 2.12 **Department:** shall refer to the Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures.
- 2.13 **Director:** shall mean the current or acting Deputy Director of the Weed Hazard and Integrated Pest Management Bureau of the County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures.
- 2.14 **Fiscal Year:** The twelve (12) month period beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> and ending the following June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 2.15 **Master Agreement:** County's standard agreement executed between County and individual Contractors. It sets forth the terms and conditions for the issuance and performance of, and otherwise governs, subsequent Work Orders.

- 2.16 **Qualified Contractor:** A Contractor who has submitted a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) in response to County's Request For Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ); has met the minimum qualifications listed in the RFSQ, and has an executed Master Agreement with the Department.
- 2.17 **Request For Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ):** A solicitation based on establishing a pool of Qualified Vendors to provide services through Master Agreements.
- 2.18 **Statement of Qualifications (SOQ):** A Contractor's response to an RFSQ.
- 2.19 **Statement of Work:** A written description of tasks and/or deliverables desired by County for a specific Work Order.
- 2.20 **Weeds:** Annual plant growth comprised of a range of species from light grass to heavy and dense invasive plants like mustard, anise, and thistle. Weeds shall also include scattered areas of light brush (perennial plants) in the form of small new growth, saplings, or light regrowth.
- 2.21 **Work Order:** A subordinate agreement executed wholly within and subject to the provisions of this Master Agreement, for the performance of tasks and/or provision of deliverables as described in a specification or a Statement of Work. Each Work Order shall result from bids, solicited by and tendered to County, by Qualified Contractors. Unless otherwise specified in the Work Order Availability Notice, County shall select the lowest cost, qualified bid responding to the requirements of the proposed Work Order. No work shall be performed by Contractors except in accordance with validly bid and executed Work Orders.
- 2.22 **Worksite Guidance:** Department personnel physically present at a worksite to provide guidance in terms of the amount, extent,

standard or type of clearance needed and the disposition of cleared material. It also means Department personnel will answer questions and concerns from property owners, the public or Fire Department personnel.

- 2.23 **Zone Inspector, Area Inspector or Weed Abatement Division:** shall mean the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/ Director of Weights and Measures or his authorized representative.

### **3.0 WORK**

- 3.1 Pursuant to the provisions of this Master Agreement, the Contractor shall fully perform, complete and deliver on time, all tasks, deliverables, services and other work as set forth herein.
- 3.2 Work Orders shall generally conform to Exhibit F which describes work to be performed on a fixed price per deliverable basis as determined by County. Each Work Order shall include an attached Statement of Work, which shall describe in detail the particular project and the work required for the performance thereof. Payment for all work shall be on a fixed priced per deliverable basis, subject to the Total Maximum Amount specified on each individual Work Order.
- 3.3 If Contractor provides any task, deliverable, service, or other work to County that utilizes other than approved Contractor Personnel, and/or that goes beyond the Work Order expiration date, and/or that exceeds the Total Maximum Amount as specified in the Work Order as originally written or modified in accordance with sub-paragraph 8.1, Amendments, these shall be gratuitous efforts on the part of Contractor for which Contractor shall have no claim whatsoever against County.
- 3.4 County procedures for issuing and executing Work Orders are as set forth in this sub-paragraph 3.4. Upon determination by County to issue a Work Order solicitation, County shall issue a Work Order solicitation containing a Statement of Work to all Master Agreement Contractors Qualified in the Service Category being solicited. Each interested Qualified Contractor so contacted shall submit a bid to the County address and within the timeframe specified in the solicitation. Failure of Contractor to provide a bid within the specified timeframe may disqualify Contractor for that particular Work Order.

- 3.5 Upon completion of evaluations, County shall execute the Work Order by and through the Department staff identified in this Master Agreement with the lowest cost Qualified Contractor. It is understood by Contractor that County's competitive bidding procedure may have the effect that no Work Orders are awarded to some Master Agreement Qualified Contractors.
- 3.6 County estimates that selection of any Contractor shall occur within five (5) business days of completion of the evaluations of the particular Work Order bids. Following selection, the Contractor selected must be available to meet with County on the starting date specified in the Work Order. Inability of Contractor to comply with such commencement date may be cause for disqualification of Contractor from the particular Work Order as determined in the sole discretion of County's Project Director.
- 3.7 In the event Contractor defaults three times under sub-paragraph 3.6 within a given County fiscal year, then County may terminate this Master Agreement pursuant to Sub-paragraph 8.42, Termination For Default.
- 3.8 The Standard of Performance and/or determination of satisfactory completion of work performed by Contractor pursuant to a Work Order shall reside with the County.

#### **4.0 TERM OF MASTER AGREEMENT**

- 4.1 This Master Agreement is effective upon the date of its execution by the Commissioner or his designee as authorized by the Board of Supervisors. This Master Agreement shall expire on \_\_\_\_\_ unless sooner extended or terminated, in whole or in part, as provided herein.
- 4.2 The County shall have the sole option to extend the Master Agreement term for up to two additional one-year periods for a maximum total Master Agreement term of 5 years. Each such option and extension shall be exercised at the sole discretion of the Commissioner or his/her designee as authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

The County maintains databases that track/monitor contractor performance history. Information entered into such databases may be used for a variety of purposes, including determining whether the County will exercise a contract term extension option.

- 4.3 Contractor shall notify the Department when this Master Agreement is within six (6) months from the expiration of the term as provided for hereinabove. Upon occurrence of this event, Contractor shall send written notification to the Department at the address herein provided in Exhibit A.

## **5.0 CONTRACT SUM**

- 5.1 Contractor shall not be entitled to any payment by County under this Master Agreement except pursuant to validly executed and satisfactorily performed Work Orders. In each year of this Master Agreement, the total of all amounts actually expended by County hereunder ("maximum annual expenditures") may not exceed amounts allocated to the Department by the County Board of Supervisors in their approved budgets. The County has sole discretion to expend some, all, or none of such budgeted amounts. The sum of such annual expenditures for the duration of the Master Agreement is the Contract Sum.
- 5.2 The Contractor shall not be entitled to payment or reimbursement for any tasks or services performed, nor for any incidental or administrative expenses whatsoever incurred in or incidental to performance hereunder, except as specified herein. Assumption or takeover of any of the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, or obligations, or performance of same by any entity other than the Contractor, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever, shall occur only with the County's express prior written approval.
- 5.3 **No Payment for Services Provided Following Expiration/Termination of Master Agreement**

Contractor shall have no claim against County for payment of any money or reimbursement, of any kind whatsoever, for any service provided by Contractor after the expiration or other termination of this Master Agreement. Should Contractor receive any such payment it shall immediately notify County and shall immediately repay all such funds to County. Payment by County for services rendered after expiration/termination of this Master Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of County's right to recover such payment from Contractor. This provision shall survive the expiration or other termination of this Master Agreement.

## 5.4 **Invoices and Payments**

- 5.4.1 For providing the services authorized pursuant to this Master Agreement, Contractor shall separately invoice County for each Work Order.
- 5.4.2 Payment for all work shall be on a fixed price per deliverable basis, subject to the Total Maximum Amount specified in each Work Order.
- 5.4.3 All work performed by, and all invoices submitted by, Contractor pursuant to Work Orders issued hereunder must receive the written approval of County's Work Order Director, who shall be responsible for a detailed evaluation of Contractor's performance before approval of work and/or payment of invoices is permitted.
- 5.4.4 Invoices under this Master Agreement shall be submitted to the address set forth in the applicable Work Order.

### 5.4.5 **Invoice Content**

The period of performance specified in Contractor's invoice(s) must coincide with the period of performance specified in the applicable Work Order.

Each invoice submitted by Contractor shall specify:

- County number of the Work Order and Contractor's Master Agreement;
- Date(s) when work was performed;
- Address or Assessor's I.D. of the property/parcel where work was performed;
- Weed Abatement Zone Number;
- A brief description of the deliverable(s) for which payment is claimed, the respective number(s) assigned to the deliverable(s), and the individual amount being billed for each deliverable; and
- The total amount of the invoice.

#### 5.4.6 **Local Small Business Enterprises – Prompt Payment Program (if applicable)**

Certified Local SBEs will receive prompt payment for services they provide to County departments. Prompt payment is defined as 15 calendar days after receipt of an undisputed invoice.

## **6.0 ADMINISTRATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT - COUNTY**

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**

A listing of all County Administration referenced in the following subparagraphs are designated in Exhibit A. The County shall notify the Contractor in writing of any change in the names or addresses shown.

#### **6.1 County's Master Agreement Program Director (MAPD)**

The MAPD has the authority to recommend all changes to this Master Agreement and resolve disputes between the Department and Contractor.

#### **6.2 County's Project Director**

The County's Project Director, or designee, is the approving authority for individual Work Order solicitations and executions.

#### **6.3 County's Work Order Director (Zone Inspector)**

A Work Order Director will be assigned for each Work Order by County's Project Director. In most cases, this will be a Weed Abatement Division, Zone Inspector.

6.3.1 The responsibilities of the Work Order Director include:

- ensuring that the Contractor understands exactly what he or she is expected to accomplish on a given property or parcel.
- ensuring that this Master Agreement's objectives are met;
- monitoring, evaluating and reporting Contractor performance and progress on the Work Order;
- coordinating with Contractor's Project Manager, on a regular basis, regarding the performance of Contractor's personnel on each particular project;
- assisting the Contractor with proper invoicing for each Work Order.

6.3.2 County's Work Order Directors are not authorized to make any changes in Work Order in the terms and conditions of this Master Agreement, except through formally prepared Amendments, sub-paragraph 8.1.

**6.4 County's Project Manager**

The County's Project Manager is County's chief contact person with respect to the day-to-day administration of this Master Agreement. The Project Manager shall prepare and issue Work Orders and any Amendments thereto, and generally be the first person for Contractor to contact with any questions.

**7.0 ADMINISTRATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT - CONTRACTOR**

**7.1 Contractor's Project Manager**

7.1.1 Contractor's Project Manager is designated in Exhibit B. The Contractor shall notify the County in writing of any change in the name or address of the Contractor's Project Manager.

7.1.2 Contractor's Project Manager shall be responsible for Contractor's day-to-day activities as related to this Master Agreement and shall coordinate with County's Work Order Directors on a regular basis with respect to all active Work Orders.

**7.2 Contractor's Authorized Official(s)**

7.2.1 Contractor's Authorized Official(s) are designated in Exhibit B. Contractor shall promptly notify County in writing of any change in the name(s) or address(es) of Contractor's Authorized Official(s).

7.2.2 Contractor represents and warrants that all requirements of Contractor have been fulfilled to provide actual authority to such officials to execute documents under this Master Agreement on behalf of Contractor.

**7.3 Approval of Contractor's Staff**

County has the absolute right to approve or disapprove all of Contractor's staff performing work hereunder and any proposed changes in Contractor's staff, including, but not limited to, Contractor's Project Manager.

## **8.0 STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **8.1 AMENDMENTS**

- 8.1.1 The County's Board of Supervisors or Chief Executive Officer or designee may require the addition and/or change of certain terms and conditions in the Master Agreement during the term of this Master Agreement. The County reserves the right to add and/or change such provisions as required by the County's Board of Supervisors or Chief Executive Officer. To implement such orders, an Amendment to the Master Agreement shall be prepared and executed by the Contractor and by the Director.
- 8.1.2 The Commissioner or his designee may, at his sole discretion, authorize extensions of time as defined in Paragraph 4.0 - Term of Master Agreement. The Contractor agrees that such extensions of time shall not change any other term or condition of this Master Agreement during the period of such extensions. To implement an extension of time, an Amendment to the Master Agreement shall be prepared and executed by the Contractor and by the Director.

### **8.2 ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION**

- 8.2.1 The Contractor shall not assign its rights or delegate its duties under this Master Agreement, or both, whether in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of County, in its discretion, and any attempted assignment or delegation without such consent shall be null and void. For purposes of this sub-paragraph, County consent shall require a written amendment to the Master Agreement, which is formally approved and executed by the parties. Any payments by the County to any approved delegate or assignee on any claim under this Master Agreement shall be deductible, at County's sole discretion, against the claims, which the Contractor may have against the County.
- 8.2.2 Shareholders, partners, members, or other equity holders of Contractor may transfer, sell, exchange, assign, or divest themselves of any interest they may have therein.

However, in the event any such sale, transfer, exchange, assignment, or divestment is effected in such a way as to give majority control of Contractor to any person(s), corporation, partnership, or legal entity other than the majority controlling interest therein at the time of execution of the Master Agreement, such disposition is an assignment requiring the prior written consent of County in accordance with applicable provisions of this Master Agreement.

8.2.3 Any assumption, assignment, delegation, or takeover of any of the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, obligations, or performance of same by any entity other than the Contractor, whether through assignment, subcontract, delegation, merger, buyout, or any other mechanism, with or without consideration for any reason whatsoever without County's express prior written approval, shall be a material breach of the Master Agreement which may result in the termination of this Master Agreement. In the event of such termination, County shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against Contractor as it could pursue in the event of default by Contractor.

### 8.3 **AUTHORIZATION WARRANTY**

The Contractor represents and warrants that the person executing this Master Agreement for the Contractor is an authorized agent who has actual authority to bind the Contractor to each and every term, condition, and obligation of this Master Agreement and that all requirements of the Contractor have been fulfilled to provide such actual authority.

### 8.4 **BUDGET REDUCTIONS**

In the event that the County's Board of Supervisors adopts, in any fiscal year, a County Budget which provides for reductions in the salaries and benefits paid to the majority of County employees and imposes similar reductions with respect to County Contracts, the County reserves the right to reduce its payment obligation under this Contract correspondingly for that fiscal year and any subsequent fiscal year during the term of this Contract (including any

extensions), and the services to be provided by the Contractor under this Contract shall also be reduced correspondingly. The County's notice to the Contractor regarding said reduction in payment obligation shall be provided within thirty (30) calendar days of the Board's approval of such actions. Except as set forth in the preceding sentence, the Contractor shall continue to provide all of the services set forth in this Contract.

## **8.5 COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW**

8.5.1 In the performance of this Contract, Contractor shall comply with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, directives, guidelines, policies and procedures, and all provisions required thereby to be included in this Contract are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

8.5.2 Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County, its officers, employees, and agents, from and against any and all claims, demands, damages, liabilities, losses, costs, and expenses, including, without limitation, defense costs and legal, accounting and other expert, consulting or professional fees, arising from, connected with, or related to any failure by Contractor, its officers, employees, agents, or subcontractors, to comply with any such laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, directives, guidelines, policies, or procedures, as determined by County in its sole judgment. Any legal defense pursuant to Contractor's indemnification obligations under this Paragraph 8.4 shall be conducted by Contractor and performed by counsel selected by Contractor and approved by County. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, County shall have the right to participate in any such defense at its sole cost and expense, except that in the event Contractor fails to provide County with a full and adequate defense, as determined by County in its sole judgment, County shall be entitled to retain its own counsel, including, without limitation, County Counsel, and

reimbursement from Contractor for all such costs and expenses incurred by County in doing so. Contractor shall not have the right to enter into any settlement, agree to any injunction or other equitable relief, or make any admission, in each case, on behalf of County without County's prior written approval.

## **8.6 COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS**

The Contractor hereby assures that it will comply with Subchapter VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC Sections 2000 (e) (1) through 2000 (e) (17), to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, religion, ancestry, age, condition of physical handicap, marital status, political affiliation, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this Master Agreement or under any project, program, or activity supported by this Master Agreement. The Contractor shall comply with Exhibit C - Contractor's EEO Certification.

## **8.7 COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S JURY SERVICE PROGRAM**

**8.7.1 Jury Service Program:** This Master Agreement is subject to the provisions of the County's ordinance entitled Contractor Employee Jury Service ("Jury Service Program") as codified in Sections 2.203.010 through 2.203.090 of the Los Angeles County Code, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit D and incorporated by reference into and made part of this Master Agreement.

### **8.7.2 Written Employee Jury Service Policy**

1. Unless Contractor has demonstrated to the County's satisfaction either that Contractor is not a "Contractor" as defined under the Jury Service Program (Section 2.203.020 of the County Code) or that Contractor qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program (Section 2.203.070 of the County Code), Contractor shall have and adhere to a written policy that provides that its Employees shall receive from the Contractor, on an

annual basis, no less than five days of regular pay for actual jury service. The policy may provide that Employees deposit any fees received for such jury service with the Contractor or that the Contractor deduct from the Employee's regular pay the fees received for jury service.

2. For purposes of this sub-paragraph, "Contractor" means a person, partnership, corporation or other entity which has a contract with the County or a subcontract with a County Contractor and has received or will receive an aggregate sum of \$50,000 or more in any 12-month period under one or more County contracts or subcontracts. "Employee" means any California resident who is a full time employee of Contractor. "Full-time" means 40 hours or more worked per week, or a lesser number of hours if: 1) the lesser number is a recognized industry standard as determined by the County, or 2) Contractor has a long-standing practice that defines the lesser number of hours as full-time. Full-time employees providing short-term, temporary services of 90 days or less within a 12-month period are not considered full-time for purposes of the Jury Service Program. If Contractor uses any subcontractor to perform services for the County under the Master Agreement, the subcontractor shall also be subject to the provisions of this sub-paragraph. The provisions of this sub-paragraph shall be inserted into any such subcontract agreement and a copy of the Jury Service Program shall be attached to the agreement.
3. If Contractor is not required to comply with the Jury Service Program when the Master Agreement commences, Contractor shall have a continuing obligation to review the applicability of its "exception status" from the Jury Service Program, and Contractor shall immediately notify County if Contractor at any time either comes within the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" or if Contractor no longer qualifies for an exception to the Jury Service Program. In either event, Contractor shall immediately implement a written policy

consistent with the Jury Service Program. The County may also require, at any time during the Master

Agreement and at its sole discretion, that Contractor demonstrate to the County's satisfaction that Contractor either continues to remain outside of the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" and/or that Contractor continues to qualify for an exception to the Program.

4. Contractor's violation of this sub-paragraph of the Master Agreement may constitute a material breach of the Master Agreement. In the event of such material breach, County may, in its sole discretion, terminate the Master Agreement and/or bar Contractor from the award of future County contracts for a period of time consistent with the seriousness of the breach.

## **8.8 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

8.8.1 No County employee whose position with the County enables such employee to influence the award of this Master Agreement or any competing Master Agreement, and no spouse or economic dependent of such employee, shall be employed in any capacity by the Contractor or have any other direct or indirect financial interest in this Master Agreement. No officer or employee of the Contractor who may financially benefit from the performance of work hereunder shall in any way participate in the County's approval, or ongoing evaluation, of such work, or in any way attempt to unlawfully influence the County's approval or ongoing evaluation of such work.

8.8.2 The Contractor shall comply with all conflict of interest laws, ordinances, and regulations now in effect or hereafter to be enacted during the term of this Master Agreement. The Contractor warrants that it is not now aware of any facts that create a conflict of interest. If the Contractor hereafter becomes aware of any facts that might reasonably be expected to create a conflict of interest, it shall immediately make full written disclosure of such facts to the County. Full written disclosure shall include, but is not limited to, identification of all persons implicated and a complete description of all relevant circumstances. Failure to comply

with the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.8 shall be a material breach of this Master Agreement.

**8.9 CONSIDERATION OF HIRING COUNTY EMPLOYEES TARGETED FOR LAYOFF/OR RE-EMPLOYMENT LIST**

Should the Contractor require additional or replacement personnel after the effective date of this Master Agreement to perform the services set forth herein, the Contractor shall give first consideration for such employment openings to qualified, permanent County employees who are targeted for layoff or qualified, former County employees who are on a re-employment list during the life of this Master Agreement.

**8.10 CONSIDERATION OF HIRING GAIN/GROW PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

8.10.1 Should the Contractor require additional or replacement personnel after the effective date of this Master Agreement, the Contractor shall give consideration for any such employment openings to participants in the County's Department of Public Social Services Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program or General Relief Opportunity for Work (GROW) Program who meet the Contractor's minimum qualifications for the open position. For this purpose, consideration shall mean that the Contractor will interview qualified candidates. The County will refer GAIN/GROW participants by job category to the Contractor.

8.10.2 In the event that both laid-off County employees and GAIN/GROW participants are available for hiring, County employees shall be given first priority.

**8.11 CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY AND DEBARMENT**

**8.11.1 Responsible Contractor**

A responsible Contractor is a Contractor who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the Master Agreement. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible Contractors.

### 8.11.2 **Chapter 2.202 of the County Code**

The Contractor is hereby notified that, in accordance with Chapter 2.202 of the County Code, if the County acquires information concerning the performance of the Contractor on this or other contracts which indicates that the Contractor is not responsible, the County may, in addition to other remedies provided in this Master Agreement, debar the Contractor from bidding or proposing on, or being awarded, and/or performing work on County contracts for a specified period of time, which generally will not exceed five years but may exceed five years or be permanent if warranted by the circumstances, and terminate any or all existing Contracts the Contractor may have with the County.

### 8.11.3 **Non-responsible Contractor**

The County may debar a Contractor if the Board of Supervisors finds, in its discretion, that the Contractor has done any of the following: (1) violated a term of a contract with the County or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, (2) committed an act or omission which negatively reflects on the Contractor's quality, fitness or capacity to perform a contract with the County, any other public entity, or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, or engaged in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on same, (3) committed an act or offense which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty, or (4) made or submitted a false claim against the County or any other public entity.

### 8.11.4 **Contractor Hearing Board**

1. If there is evidence that the Contractor may be subject to debarment, the Department will notify the Contractor in writing of the evidence which is the basis for the proposed debarment and will advise the Contractor of the scheduled date for a debarment hearing before the Contractor Hearing Board.
2. The Contractor Hearing Board will conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed debarment is presented. The Contractor and/or the Contractor's

representative shall be given an opportunity to submit evidence at that hearing. After the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall prepare a tentative proposed decision, which shall contain a recommendation regarding whether the Contractor should be debarred, and, if so, the appropriate length of time of the debarment. The Contractor and the Department shall be provided an opportunity to object to the tentative proposed decision prior to its presentation to the Board of Supervisors.

3. After consideration of any objections, or if no objections are submitted, a record of the hearing, the proposed decision, and any other recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board shall be presented to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.
4. If a Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years, that Contractor may after the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years, submit a written request for review of the debarment determination to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The County may, in its discretion, reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment if it finds that the Contractor has adequately demonstrated one or more of the following: (1) elimination of the grounds for which the debarment was imposed; (2) a bona fide change in ownership or management; (3) material evidence discovered after debarment was imposed; or (4) any other reason that is in the best interests of the County.
5. The Contractor Hearing Board will consider a request for review of a debarment determination only where (1) the Contractor has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years; (2) the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years; and (3) the request is in writing, states one or more of the grounds for

reduction of the debarment period or termination of the debarment, and includes supporting documentation. Upon receiving an appropriate request, the Contractor Hearing Board will provide notice of the hearing on the request. At the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed reduction of debarment period or termination of debarment is presented. This hearing shall be conducted and the request for review decided by the Contractor Hearing Board pursuant to the same procedures as for a debarment hearing.

6. The Contractor Hearing Board's proposed decision shall contain a recommendation on the request to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The Contractor Hearing Board shall present its proposed decision and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.

#### **8.11.5 Subcontractors of Contractor**

These terms shall also apply to Subcontractors of County Contractors.

#### **8.12 CONTRACTOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTY'S COMMITMENT TO THE SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW**

The Contractor acknowledges that the County places a high priority on the implementation of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law. The Contractor understands that it is the County's policy to encourage all County Contractors to voluntarily post the County's "Safely Surrendered Baby Law" poster in a prominent position at the Contractor's place of business. The Contractor will also encourage its Subcontractors, if any, to post this poster in a prominent position in the Subcontractor's place of business. The County's Department of Children and Family Services will supply the Contractor with the poster to be used. Information on how to receive the poster can be found on the Internet at [www.babysafela.org](http://www.babysafela.org).

**8.13 CONTRACTOR'S WARRANTY OF ADHERENCE TO COUNTY'S CHILD SUPPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM:**

8.13.1 The Contractor acknowledges that the County has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals who benefit financially from the County through Purchase Order or Master Agreement are in compliance with their court-ordered child, family and spousal support obligations in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon the County and its taxpayers.

8.13.2 As required by the County's Child Support Compliance Program (County Code Chapter 2.200) and without limiting the Contractor's duty under this Master Agreement to comply with all applicable provisions of law, the Contractor warrants that it is now in compliance and shall during the term of this Master Agreement maintain in compliance with employment and wage reporting requirements as required by the Federal Social Security Act (42 USC Section 653a) and California Unemployment Insurance Code Section 1088.5, and shall implement all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Withholding Orders or Child Support Services Department Notices of Wage and Earnings Assignment for Child, Family or Spousal Support, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 706.031 and Family Code Section 5246(b).

**8.14 COUNTY'S QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN**

The County or its agent will evaluate the Contractor's performance under this Master Agreement on not less than an annual basis. Such evaluation will include assessing the Contractor's compliance with all Master Agreement terms and conditions and performance standards. Contractor deficiencies which the County determines are severe or continuing and that may place performance of the Master Agreement in jeopardy if not corrected will be reported to the Board of Supervisors. The report will include improvement/corrective action measures taken by the County and the Contractor. If improvement does not occur consistent with the corrective action measures, the County may terminate this Master Agreement or impose other penalties as specified in this Master Agreement.

The County maintains databases that track/monitor contractor performance history. Information entered into such databases may be used for a variety of purposes, including determining whether the County will exercise a contract term extension option.

**8.15 DAMAGE TO COUNTY FACILITIES, BUILDINGS OR GROUNDS**

8.15.1 Contractor shall repair, or cause to be repaired, at its own cost, any and all damage to County facilities, buildings, or grounds caused by Contractor or employees or agents of Contractor. Such repairs shall be made immediately after Contractor has become aware of such damage, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after the occurrence.

8.15.2 If Contractor fails to make timely repairs, County may make any necessary repairs. All costs incurred by County, as determined by County, for such repairs shall be repaid by Contractor by cash payment upon demand.

**8.16 EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION**

8.16.1 The Contractor warrants that it fully complies with all Federal and State statutes and regulations regarding the employment of aliens and others and that all its employees performing work under this Master Agreement meet the citizenship or alien status requirements set forth in Federal and State statutes and regulations. The Contractor shall obtain, from all employees performing work hereunder, all verification and other documentation of employment eligibility status required by Federal and State statutes and regulations including, but not limited to, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, (P.L. 99-603), or as they currently exist and as they may be hereafter amended. The Contractor shall retain all such documentation for all covered employees for the period prescribed by law.

8.16.2 The Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless, the County, its agents, officers, and employees from employer sanctions and any other liability which may be

assessed against the Contractor or the County or both in connection with any alleged violation of any Federal or State statutes or regulations pertaining to the eligibility for employment of any persons performing work under this Master Agreement.

**8.17 FACSIMILE REPRESENTATIONS**

The County and the Contractor hereby agree to regard facsimile representations of original signatures of authorized officers of each party, when appearing in appropriate places on the Amendments prepared pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.1, and received via communications facilities, as legally sufficient evidence that such original signatures have been affixed to Amendments to this Master Agreement, such that the parties need not follow up facsimile transmissions of such documents with subsequent (non-facsimile) transmission of "original" versions of such documents.

**8.18 FAIR LABOR STANDARDS**

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the County and its agents, officers, and employees from any and all liability, including, but not limited to, wages, overtime pay, liquidated damages, penalties, court costs, and attorneys' fees arising under any wage and hour law, including, but not limited to, the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act, for work performed by the Contractor's employees for which the County may be found jointly or solely liable.

**8.19 FORCE MAJEURE**

8.19.1 Neither party shall be liable for such party's failure to perform its obligations under and in accordance with this Master Agreement, if such failure arises out of fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, other natural occurrences, strikes, lockouts (other than a lockout by such party or any of such party's subcontractors), freight embargoes, or other similar events to those described above, but in every such case the failure to perform must be totally beyond the control and without any fault or negligence of such party (such events are referred to in this sub-paragraph as "force majeure events").

8.19.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, a default by a subcontractor of Contractor shall not constitute a force majeure event, unless such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both Contractor and such subcontractor, and without any fault or negligence of either of them. In such case, Contractor shall not be liable for failure to perform, unless the goods or services to be furnished by the subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit Contractor to meet the required performance schedule. As used in this sub-paragraph, the term “subcontractor” and “subcontractors” mean subcontractors at any tier.

8.19.3 In the event Contractor's failure to perform arises out of a force majeure event, Contractor agrees to use commercially reasonable best efforts to obtain goods or services from other sources, if applicable, and to otherwise mitigate the damages and reduce the delay caused by such force majeure event.

## 8.20 **GOVERNING LAW, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE**

This Master Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California. The Contractor agrees and consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the State of California for all purposes regarding this Master Agreement and further agrees and consents that venue of any action brought hereunder shall be exclusively in the County of Los Angeles.

## 8.21 **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS**

8.21.1 This Master Agreement is by and between the County and the Contractor and is not intended, and shall not be construed, to create the relationship of agent, servant, employee, partnership, joint venture, or association, as between the County and the Contractor. The employees and agents of one party shall not be, or be construed to be, the employees or agents of the other party for any purpose whatsoever.

8.21.2 The Contractor shall be solely liable and responsible for providing to, or on behalf of, all persons performing work

pursuant to this Master Agreement all compensation and benefits. The County shall have no liability or responsibility for the payment of any salaries, wages, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, Federal, State, or local taxes, or other compensation, benefits, or taxes for any personnel provided by or on behalf of the Contractor.

8.21.3 The Contractor understands and agrees that all persons performing work pursuant to this Master Agreement are, for purposes of Workers' Compensation liability, solely employees of the Contractor and not employees of the County. The Contractor shall be solely liable and responsible for furnishing any and all Workers' Compensation benefits to any person as a result of any injuries arising from or connected with any work performed by or on behalf of the Contractor pursuant to this Master Agreement.

8.21.4 The Contractor shall adhere to the provisions stated in subparagraph 7.6 – Confidentiality.

## 8.22 **INDEMNIFICATION**

The Contractor shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the County, its Special Districts, elected and appointed officers, employees, agents and volunteers (“County Indemnitees”) from and against any and all liability, including but not limited to demands, claims, actions, fees, costs and expenses (including attorney and expert witness fees), arising from and/or relating to this Master Agreement, except for such loss or damage arising from the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the County Indemnitees.

## 8.23 **GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL INSURANCE COVERAGE**

Without limiting Contractor's indemnification of County, and in the performance of this Contract and until all of its obligations pursuant to this Contract have been met, Contractor shall provide and maintain at its own expense insurance coverage satisfying the requirements specified in this Section and Section 8.23 of this Contract. These minimum insurance coverage terms, types and

limits (the “Required Insurance”) also are in addition to and separate from any other contractual obligation imposed upon Contractor pursuant to this Contract. The County in no way warrants that the Required Insurance is sufficient to protect the Contractor for liabilities which may arise from or relate to this Contract.

#### **8.23.1 Evidence of Coverage and Notice to County**

- Certificate(s) of insurance coverage (Certificate) satisfactory to County, and a copy of an Additional Insured endorsement confirming County and its Agents (defined below) has been given Insured status under the Contractor’s General Liability policy, shall be delivered to County at the address shown below and provided prior to commencing services under this Contract.
- Renewal Certificates shall be provided to County not less than 10 days prior to Contractor’s policy expiration dates. The County reserves the right to obtain complete, certified copies of any required Contractor and/or Sub-Contractor insurance policies at any time.
- Certificates shall identify all Required Insurance coverage types and limits specified herein, reference this Contract by name or number, and be signed by an authorized representative of the insurer(s). The Insured party named on the Certificate shall match the name of the Contractor identified as the contracting party in this Contract. Certificates shall provide the full name of each insurer providing coverage, its NAIC (National Association of Insurance Commissioners) identification number, its financial rating, the amounts of any policy deductibles or self-insured retentions exceeding fifty thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars, and list any County required endorsement forms.
- Neither the County’s failure to obtain, nor the County’s receipt of, or failure to object to a non-complying insurance certificate or endorsement, or any other insurance documentation or information provided by the Contractor, its insurance broker(s) and/or insurer(s),

shall be construed as a waiver of any of the Required Insurance provisions.

Certificates and copies of any required endorsements shall be sent to:

ATTN: Jo Anne Benavidez  
County of Los Angeles  
Department of Agricultural Commissioner/  
Weights and Measures  
12300 Lower Azusa Road  
Arcadia, CA 91006

Contractor also shall promptly report to County any injury or property damage accident or incident, including any injury to a Contractor employee occurring on County property, and any loss, disappearance, destruction, misuse, or theft of County property, monies or securities entrusted to Contractor. Contractor also shall promptly notify County of any third party claim or suit filed against Contractor or any of its Sub-Contractors which arises from or relates to this Contract, and could result in the filing of a claim or lawsuit against Contractor and/or County.

#### **8.23.2 Additional Insured Status and Scope of Coverage**

The County of Los Angeles, its Special Districts, Elected Officials, Officers, Agents, Employees and Volunteers (collectively County and its Agents) shall be provided additional insured status under Contractor's General Liability policy with respect to liability arising out of Contractor's ongoing and completed operations performed on behalf of the County. County and its Agents additional insured status shall apply with respect to liability and defense of suits arising out of the Contractor's acts or omissions, whether such liability is attributable to the Contractor or to the County. The full policy limits and scope of protection also shall apply to the County and its Agents as an additional insured, even if they exceed the County's minimum Required Insurance specifications herein. Use of an automatic additional insured endorsement form is acceptable providing it satisfies the Required Insurance provisions herein.

### **8.23.3 Cancellation of or Changes in Insurance**

Contractor shall provide County with, or Contractor's insurance policies shall contain a provision that County shall receive, written notice of cancellation or any change in Required Insurance, including insurer, limits of coverage, term of coverage or policy period. The written notice shall be provided to County at least ten (10) days in advance of cancellation for non-payment of premium and thirty (30) days in advance for any other cancellation or policy change. Failure to provide written notice of cancellation or any change in Required Insurance may constitute a material breach of the Contract, in the sole discretion of the County, upon which the County may suspend or terminate this Contract.

### **8.23.4 Failure to Maintain Insurance**

Contractor's failure to maintain or to provide acceptable evidence that it maintains the Required Insurance shall constitute a material breach of the Contract, upon which County immediately may withhold payments due to Contractor, and/or suspend or terminate this Contract. County, at its sole discretion, may obtain damages from Contractor resulting from said breach. Alternatively, the County may purchase the Required Insurance, and without further notice to Contractor, deduct the premium cost from sums due to Contractor or pursue Contractor reimbursement.

### **8.23.5 Insurer Financial Ratings**

Coverage shall be placed with insurers acceptable to the County with A.M. Best ratings of not less than A:VII unless otherwise approved by County.

### **8.23.6 Contractor's Insurance Shall Be Primary**

Contractor's insurance policies, with respect to any claims related to this Contract, shall be primary with respect to all other sources of coverage available to Contractor. Any County maintained insurance or self-insurance coverage shall be in excess of and not contribute to any Contractor coverage.

#### **8.23.7 Waivers of Subrogation**

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor hereby waives its rights and its insurer(s)' rights of recovery against County under all the Required Insurance for any loss arising from or relating to this Contract. The Contractor shall require its insurers to execute any waiver of subrogation endorsements which may be necessary to effect such waiver.

#### **8.23.8 Sub-Contractor Insurance Coverage Requirements**

Contractor shall include all Sub-Contractors as insureds under Contractor's own policies, or shall provide County with each Sub-Contractor's separate evidence of insurance coverage. Contractor shall be responsible for verifying each Sub-Contractor complies with the Required Insurance provisions herein, and shall require that each Sub-Contractor name the County and Contractor as additional insureds on the Sub-Contractor's General Liability policy. Contractor shall obtain County's prior review and approval of any Sub-Contractor request for modification of the Required Insurance.

#### **8.23.9 Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions (SIRs)**

Contractor's policies shall not obligate the County to pay any portion of any Contractor deductible or SIR. The County retains the right to require Contractor to reduce or eliminate policy deductibles and SIRs as respects the County, or to provide a bond guaranteeing Contractor's payment of all deductibles and SIRs, including all related claims investigation, administration and defense expenses. Such bond shall be executed by a corporate surety licensed to transact business in the State of California.

#### **8.23.10 Claims Made Coverage**

If any part of the Required Insurance is written on a claims made basis, any policy retroactive date shall precede the effective date of this Contract. Contractor understands and agrees it shall maintain such coverage for a period of not less than three (3) years following Contract expiration, termination or cancellation.

**8.23.11 Application of Excess Liability Coverage**

Contractors may use a combination of primary, and excess insurance policies which provide coverage as broad as the underlying primary policies, to satisfy the Required Insurance provisions.

**8.23.12 Separation of Insureds**

All liability policies shall provide cross-liability coverage as would be afforded by the standard ISO (Insurance Services Office, Inc.) separation of insureds provision with no insured versus insured exclusions or limitations.

**8.23.13 Alternative Risk Financing Programs**

The County reserves the right to review, and then approve, Contractor use of self-insurance, risk retention groups, risk purchasing groups, pooling arrangements and captive insurance to satisfy the Required Insurance provisions. The County and its Agents shall be designated as an Additional Covered Party under any approved program.

**8.23.14 County Review and Approval of Insurance**

**Requirements**

The County reserves the right to review and adjust the Required Insurance provisions, conditioned upon County's determination of changes in risk exposures.

**8.24 INSURANCE COVERAGE**

**8.24.1 Commercial General Liability** insurance (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form CG 00 01), naming County and its Agents as an additional insured, with limits of not less than:

General Aggregate:	\$2 million
Products/Completed Operations Aggregate:	\$1 million
Personal and Advertising Injury:	\$1 million
Each Occurrence:	\$1 million

Policy will not exclude the use of mobile equipment or lift operations if required by contract.

8.24.2 **Automobile Liability** insurance (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form CA 00 01) with limits of not less than \$1 million for bodily injury and property damage, in combined or equivalent split limits, for each single accident. Insurance shall cover liability arising out of Contractor's use of autos pursuant to this Contract, including owned, leased, hired, and/or non-owned autos, as each may be applicable. Policy will be endorsed for the trailering or transport of mobile equipment if required by contract.

8.24.3 **Workers Compensation and Employers' Liability** insurance or qualified self-insurance satisfying statutory requirements, which includes Employers' Liability coverage with limits of not less than \$1 million per accident. If Contractor will provide leased employees, or, is an employee leasing or temporary staffing firm or a professional employer organization (PEO), coverage also shall include an Alternate Employer Endorsement (providing scope of coverage equivalent to ISO policy form WC 00 03 01 A) naming the County as the Alternate Employer, and the endorsement form shall be modified to provide that County will receive not less than thirty (30) days advance written notice of cancellation of this coverage provision. If applicable to Contractor's operations, coverage also shall be arranged to satisfy the requirements of any federal workers or workmen's compensation law or any federal occupational disease law.

## 8.25 **NONDISCRIMINATION AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

8.25.1 The Contractor certifies and agrees that all persons employed by it, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies are and shall be treated equally without regard to or because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws and regulations.

8.25.2 The Contractor shall certify to, and comply with, the provisions of Exhibit C - Contractor's EEO Certification.

- 8.25.3 The Contractor shall take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, in compliance with all applicable Federal and State anti-discrimination laws and regulations. Such action shall include, but is not limited to: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship.
- 8.25.4 The Contractor certifies and agrees that it will deal with its subcontractors, bidders, or vendors without regard to or because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation.
- 8.25.5 The Contractor certifies and agrees that it, its affiliates, subsidiaries, or holding companies shall comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, or political affiliation, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under this Master Agreement or under any project, program, or activity supported by this Master Agreement.
- 8.25.6 The Contractor shall allow County representatives access to the Contractor's employment records during regular business hours to verify compliance with the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.24 when so requested by the County.
- 8.25.7 If the County finds that any provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.24 have been violated, such violation shall constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement upon which the County may terminate or suspend this Master Agreement. While the County reserves the right to

determine independently that the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement have been violated, in addition, a determination by the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission or the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that the Contractor has violated Federal or State anti-discrimination laws or regulations shall constitute a finding by the County that the Contractor has violated the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement.

8.25.8 The parties agree that in the event the Contractor violates any of the anti-discrimination provisions of this Master Agreement, the County shall, at its sole option, be entitled to the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) for each such violation pursuant to California Civil Code Section 1671 as liquidated damages in lieu of terminating or suspending this Master Agreement.

**8.26 NON EXCLUSIVITY**

Nothing herein is intended nor shall be construed as creating any exclusive arrangement with Contractor. This Master Agreement shall not restrict the Department from acquiring similar, equal or like goods and/or services from other entities or sources.

**8.27 NOTICE OF DISPUTES**

The Contractor shall bring to the attention of the County Project Manager and/or County Project Director any dispute between the County and the Contractor regarding the performance of services as stated in this Master Agreement. If the County Project Manager or County Project Director is not able to resolve the dispute, the Commissioner or his designee shall resolve it.

**8.28 NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES REGARDING THE FEDERAL EARNED INCOME CREDIT**

The Contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the federal income tax laws. Such notice shall be provided in accordance with the requirements set forth in Internal Revenue Service Notice No. 1015.

**8.29 NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES REGARDING THE SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW**

The Contractor shall notify and provide to its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, a fact sheet regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, its implementation in Los Angeles County, and where and how to safely surrender a baby. The fact sheet is set forth in Exhibit E of this Master Agreement and is also available on the Internet at [www.babysafela.org](http://www.babysafela.org) for printing purposes.

**8.30 NOTICES**

All notices or demands required or permitted to be given or made under this Master Agreement shall be in writing and shall be hand delivered with signed receipt or mailed by first-class registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the parties as identified in Exhibits A, County's Administration and B, Contractor's Administration. Addresses may be changed by either party giving ten (10) days' prior written notice thereof to the other party. The Commissioner or his designee shall have the authority to issue all notices or demands required or permitted by the County under this Master Agreement.

**8.31 PUBLIC RECORDS ACT**

8.31.1 Any documents submitted by Contractor; all information obtained in connection with the County's right to audit and inspect Contractor's documents, books, and accounting records pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.33 - Record Retention and Inspection/Audit Settlement of this Master Agreement; as well as those documents which were required to be submitted in response to the Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) used in the solicitation process for this Master Agreement, become the exclusive property of the County. All such documents become a matter of public record and shall be regarded as public records. Exceptions will be those elements in the California Government Code Section 6250 et seq. (Public Records Act) and which are marked "trade secret", "confidential", or "proprietary". The County shall not in any way be liable or responsible for the disclosure of any such records including, without limitation, those so marked, if

disclosure is required by law, or by an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

8.31.2 In the event the County is required to defend an action on a Public Records Act request for any of the aforementioned documents, information, books, records, and/or contents of an SOQ marked “trade secret”, “confidential”, or “proprietary”, the Contractor agrees to defend and indemnify the County from all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney’s fees, in action or liability arising under the Public Records Act.

## 8.32 PUBLICITY

8.32.1 The Contractor shall not disclose any details in connection with this Master Agreement to any person or entity except as may be otherwise provided hereunder or required by law. However, in recognizing the Contractor’s need to identify its services and related clients to sustain itself, the County shall not inhibit the Contractor from publishing its role under this Master Agreement within the following conditions:

- The Contractor shall develop all publicity material in a professional manner; and
- During the term of this Master Agreement, the Contractor shall not, and shall not authorize another to, publish or disseminate any commercial advertisements, press releases, feature articles, or other materials using the name of the County without the prior written consent of the County’s Project Director. The County shall not unreasonably withhold written consent.

8.32.2 The Contractor may, without the prior written consent of County, indicate in its proposals and sales materials that it has been awarded this Master Agreement with the County of Los Angeles, provided that the requirements of this subparagraph 8.30 shall apply.

### 8.33 RECORD RETENTION AND INSPECTION/AUDIT SETTLEMENT

The Contractor shall maintain accurate and complete financial records of its activities and operations relating to this Master Agreement in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Contractor shall also maintain accurate and complete employment and other records relating to its performance of this Master Agreement. The Contractor agrees that the County, or its authorized representatives, shall have access to and the right to examine, audit, excerpt, copy, or transcribe any pertinent transaction, activity, or record relating to this Master Agreement. All such material, including, but not limited to, all financial records, bank statements, cancelled checks or other proof of payment, timecards, sign-in/sign-out sheets and other time and employment records, and proprietary data and information, shall be kept and maintained by the Contractor and shall be made available to the County during the term of this Master Agreement and for a period of five (5) years thereafter unless the County's written permission is given to dispose of any such material prior to such time. All such material shall be maintained by the Contractor at a location in Los Angeles County, provided that if any such material is located outside Los Angeles County, then, at the County's option, the Contractor shall pay the County for travel, per diem, and other costs incurred by the County to examine, audit, excerpt, copy, or transcribe such material at such other location.

8.33.1 In the event that an audit of the Contractor is conducted specifically regarding this Master Agreement by any Federal or State auditor, or by any auditor or accountant employed by the Contractor or otherwise, then the Contractor shall file a copy of such audit report with the County's Auditor-Controller within thirty (30) days of the Contractor's receipt thereof, unless otherwise provided by applicable Federal or State law or under this Master Agreement. The County shall make a reasonable effort to maintain the confidentiality of such audit report(s).

8.33.2 Failure on the part of the Contractor to comply with any of the provisions of this sub-paragraph shall constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement upon which the County may terminate or suspend this Master Agreement.

8.33.3 If, at any time during the term of this Master Agreement or within five (5) years after the expiration or termination of this Master Agreement, representatives of the County may conduct an audit of the Contractor regarding the work performed under this Master Agreement, and if such audit finds that the County's dollar liability for any such work is less than payments made by the County to the Contractor, then the difference shall be either: a) repaid by the Contractor to the County by cash payment upon demand or b) at the sole option of the County's Auditor-Controller, deducted from any amounts due to the Contractor from the County, whether under this Master Agreement or otherwise. If such audit finds that the County's dollar liability for such work is more than the payments made by the County to the Contractor, then the difference shall be paid to the Contractor by the County by cash payment, provided that in no event shall the County's maximum obligation for this Master Agreement exceed the funds appropriated by the County for the purpose of this Master Agreement.

#### 8.34 **RECYCLED BOND PAPER**

Consistent with the Board of Supervisors' policy to reduce the amount of solid waste deposited at the County landfills, the Contractor agrees to use recycled-content paper to the maximum extent possible on this Master Agreement.

#### 8.35 **SUBCONTRACTING**

8.35.1 The requirements of this Master Agreement may not be subcontracted by the Contractor **without the advance approval of the County**. Any attempt by the Contractor to subcontract without the prior consent of the County may be deemed a material breach of this Master Agreement.

- 8.35.2 If the Contractor desires to subcontract, the Contractor shall provide the following information promptly at the County's request:
- A description of the work to be performed by the subcontractor;
  - A draft copy of the proposed subcontract; and
  - Other pertinent information and/or certifications requested by the County.
- 8.35.3 The Contractor shall indemnify and hold the County harmless with respect to the activities of each and every subcontractor in the same manner and to the same degree as if such subcontractor(s) were Contractor employees.
- 8.35.4 The Contractor shall remain fully responsible for all performances required of it under this Master Agreement, including those that the Contractor has determined to subcontract, notwithstanding the County's approval of the Contractor's proposed subcontract.
- 8.35.5 The County's consent to subcontract shall not waive the County's right to prior and continuing approval of any and all personnel, including subcontractor employees, providing services under this Master Agreement. The Contractor is responsible to notify its subcontractors of this County right.
- 8.35.6 The County's MAPD is authorized to act for and on behalf of the County with respect to approval of any subcontract and subcontractor employees. After approval of the subcontract by the County, Contractor shall forward a fully executed subcontract to the County for their files.
- 8.35.7 The Contractor shall be solely liable and responsible for all payments or other compensation to all subcontractors and their officers, employees, agents, and successors in interest arising through services performed hereunder, notwithstanding the County's consent to subcontract.
- 8.35.8 The Contractor shall obtain certificates of insurance, which establish that the subcontractor maintains all the programs of insurance required by the County from each approved subcontractor. The Contractor shall ensure delivery of all such documents to:

ATTN: Jo Anne Benavidez  
County of Los Angeles  
Department of Agricultural Commissioner/  
Weights and Measures  
12300 Lower Azusa Road  
Arcadia, CA 91006

before any subcontractor employee may perform any work hereunder.

**8.36 TERMINATION FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY TO MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S CHILD SUPPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM**

Failure of the Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in sub-paragraph 8.12 - Contractor's Warranty of Adherence to County's Child Support Compliance Program, shall constitute a default under this Master Agreement. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to the County under any other provision of this Master Agreement, failure of Contractor to cure such default within 90 calendar days of written notice shall be grounds upon which the County may terminate this Master Agreement pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.34 - Termination for Default and pursue debarment of Contractor, pursuant to County Code Chapter 2.202.

**8.37 TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE**

8.37.1 County may terminate this Master Agreement, and any Work Order issued hereunder, in whole or in part, from time to time or permanently, when such action is deemed by the County, in its sole discretion, to be in its best interest. Termination of work hereunder shall be effected by notice of termination to Contractor specifying the extent to which performance of work is terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective. The date upon which such termination becomes effective shall be no less than ten (10) days after the notice is sent.

8.37.2 Upon receipt of a notice of termination and except as otherwise directed by the County, the Contractor shall immediately:

- Stop work under the Work Order or under this Master Agreement, as identified in such notice;
- Transfer title and deliver to County all completed work and work in process; and
- Complete performance of such part of the work as shall not have been terminated by such notice.

### **8.38 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT**

8.38.1 The County may, by written notice to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of this Master Agreement, if, in the judgment of County's Project Director:

- Contractor has materially breached this Master Agreement;
- Contractor fails to timely provide and/or satisfactorily perform any task, deliverable, service, or other work required either under this Master Agreement or any Work Order issued hereunder; or
- Contractor fails to demonstrate a high probability of timely fulfillment of performance requirements of any Work Order issued under this Master Agreement, or of any obligations of this Master Agreement and in either case, fails to demonstrate convincing progress toward a cure within five (5) working days (or such longer period as the County may authorize in writing) after receipt of written notice from the County specifying such failure.

8.38.2 In the event that the County terminates this Master Agreement in whole or in part as provided in sub-paragraph 8.35.1, the County may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as the County may deem appropriate, goods and services similar to those so terminated. The Contractor shall be liable to the County for any and all excess costs incurred by the County, as determined by the County, for such similar goods and services. The Contractor shall continue the performance of this Master Agreement to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this sub-paragraph.

- 8.38.3 Except with respect to defaults of any subcontractor, the Contractor shall not be liable for any such excess costs of the type identified in sub-paragraph 8.35.2 if its failure to perform this Master Agreement, including any Work Order issued hereunder, arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Such causes may include, but are not limited to: acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of the County in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, acts of Federal or State governments in their sovereign capacities, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, and unusually severe weather; but in every case, the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a subcontractor, and if such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both the Contractor and subcontractor, and without the fault or negligence of either of them, the Contractor shall not be liable for any such excess costs for failure to perform, unless the goods or services to be furnished by the subcontractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit the Contractor to meet the required performance schedule. As used in this sub-paragraph 8.35.3, the terms "subcontractor" and "subcontractors" mean subcontractor(s) at any tier.
- 8.38.4 If, after the County has given notice of termination under the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.35, it is determined by the County that the Contractor was not in default under the provisions of this sub-paragraph 8.35, or that the default was excusable under the provisions of sub-paragraph 8.35.3, the rights and obligations of the parties shall be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to sub-paragraph 8.34 - Termination for Convenience.
- 8.38.5 The rights and remedies of the County provided in this sub-paragraph 8.35 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Master Agreement.

**8.39 TERMINATION FOR IMPROPER CONSIDERATION**

8.39.1 The County may, by written notice to the Contractor, immediately terminate the right of the Contractor to proceed under this Master Agreement if it is found that consideration, in any form, was offered or given by the Contractor, either directly or through an intermediary, to any County officer, employee, or agent with the intent of securing this Master Agreement or securing favorable treatment with respect to the award, amendment, or extension of this Master Agreement or the making of any determinations with respect to the Contractor's performance pursuant to this Master Agreement. In the event of such termination, the County shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the Contractor as it could pursue in the event of default by the Contractor.

8.39.2 The Contractor shall immediately report any attempt by a County officer or employee to solicit such improper consideration. The report shall be made either to the County manager charged with the supervision of the employee or to the County Auditor-Controller's Employee Fraud Hotline at (800) 544-6861.

8.39.3 Among other items, such improper consideration may take the form of cash, discounts, services, the provision of travel or entertainment, or tangible gifts.

**8.40 TERMINATION FOR NON-ADHERENCE OF COUNTY LOBBYIST ORDINANCE**

The Contractor, and each County Lobbyist or County Lobbying firm as defined in County Code Section 2.160.010 retained by the Contractor, shall fully comply with the County's Lobbyist Ordinance, County Code Chapter 2.160. Failure on the part of the Contractor or any County Lobbyist or County Lobbying firm retained by the Contractor to fully comply with the County's Lobbyist Ordinance shall constitute a material breach of this Master Agreement, upon which the County may in its sole discretion, immediately terminate or suspend this Master Agreement.

**8.41 TERMINATION FOR NON-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Master Agreement, the County shall not be obligated for the Contractor's performance hereunder or by any provision of this Master Agreement during any of the County's future fiscal years unless and until the County's Board of Supervisors appropriates funds for this Master Agreement in the County's Budget for each such future fiscal year. In the event that funds are not appropriated for this Master Agreement, then this Master Agreement shall terminate as of June 30 of the last fiscal year for which funds were appropriated. The County shall notify the Contractor in writing of any such non-allocation of funds at the earliest possible date.

**8.42 VALIDITY**

If any provision of this Master Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this Master Agreement and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

**8.43 WAIVER**

No waiver by the County of any breach of any provision of this Master Agreement shall constitute a waiver of any other breach or of such provision. Failure of the County to enforce at any time, or from time to time, any provision of this Master Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver thereof. The rights and remedies set forth in this sub-paragraph 8.39 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Master Agreement.

**8.44 WARRANTY AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES**

8.44.1 The Contractor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this Master Agreement upon any agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, excepting bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business.

8.44.2 For breach of this warranty, the County shall have the right to terminate this Master Agreement and, at its sole discretion, deduct from the Master Agreement price or consideration, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.

**8.45 WARRANTY OF COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM**

Contractor acknowledges that County has established a goal of ensuring that all individuals and businesses that benefit financially from County through contract are current in paying their property tax obligations (secured and unsecured roll) in order to mitigate the economic burden otherwise imposed upon County and its taxpayers. Unless Contractor qualifies for an exemption or exclusion, Contractor warrants and certifies that to the best of its knowledge it is now in compliance, and during the term of this contract will maintain compliance, with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.206.

**8.46 TERMINATION FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY TO MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH COUNTY'S DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM**

Failure of Contractor to maintain compliance with the requirements set forth in Paragraph 8.45 "Warranty of Compliance with County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program" shall constitute default under this contract. Without limiting the rights and remedies available to County under any other provision of this contract, failure of Contractor to cure such default within 10 days of notice shall be grounds upon which County may terminate this contract and/or pursue debarment of Contractor, pursuant to County Code Chapter 2.206.

**8.47 TIME OFF FOR VOTING**

The Contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, information regarding the time off for voting law (Elections Code Section

14000). Not less than 10 days before every statewide election, every Contractor and subcontractors shall keep posted conspicuously at the place of work, if practicable, or elsewhere where it can be seen as employees come or go to their place of work, a notice setting forth the provisions of Section 14000.

## **9.0 UNIQUE TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **9.1 LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (SBE) PREFERENCE PROGRAM**

9.1.1 This Master Agreement is subject to the provisions of the County's ordinance entitled Local Small Business Enterprise Preference Program, as codified in Chapter 2.204 of the Los Angeles County Code.

9.1.2 Contractor shall not knowingly and with the intent to defraud, fraudulently obtain, retain, attempt to obtain or retain, or aid another in fraudulently obtaining or retaining or attempting to obtain or retain certification as a Local Small Business Enterprise.

9.1.3 Contractor shall not willfully and knowingly make a false statement with the intent to defraud, whether by affidavit, report, or other representation, to a County official or employee for the purpose of influencing the certification or denial of certification of any entity as a Local Small Business Enterprise.

9.1.4 If Contractor has obtained certification as a Local Small Business Enterprise by reason of having furnished incorrect supporting information or by reason of having withheld information, and which knew, or should have known, the information furnished was incorrect or the information withheld was relevant to its request for certification, and which by reason of such certification has been awarded this Master Agreement/Work Order to which it would not otherwise have been entitled, shall:

1. Pay to the County any difference between the work order amount and what the County's costs would have been if the work order had been properly awarded;

2. In addition to the amount described in subdivision (1), be assessed a penalty in an amount of not more than 10 percent of the amount of the work order; and
3. Be subject to the provisions of Chapter 2.202 of the Los Angeles County Code (Determinations of Contractor Non-responsibility and Contractor Debarment).

The above penalties shall also apply to any business that has previously obtained proper certification, however, as a result of a change in their status would no longer be eligible for certification, and fails to notify the state and Internal Services Department of this information prior to responding to a solicitation or accepting a contract award.

(Paragraph 9.2 will only be included in Master Agreements where the Contractor was certified as a Transitional Job Opportunity Vendor)

## **9.2 TRANSITIONAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES PREFERENCE PROGRAM**

- 9.2.1 This Master Agreement is subject to the provisions of the County's ordinance entitled Transitional Job Opportunities Preference Program, as codified in Chapter 2.205 of the Los Angeles County Code.
- 9.2.2 Contractor shall not knowingly and with the intent to defraud, fraudulently obtain, retain, attempt to obtain or retain, or aid another in fraudulently obtaining or retaining or attempting to obtain or retain certification as a Transitional Job Opportunity vendor.
- 9.2.3 Contractor shall not willfully and knowingly make a false statement with the intent to defraud, whether by affidavit, report, or other representation, to a County official or employee for the purpose of influencing the certification or denial of certification of any entity as a Transitional Job Opportunity vendor.
- 9.2.4 If Contractor has obtained County certification as a Transitional Job Opportunity vendor by reason of having furnished incorrect supporting information or by reason of having withheld information, and which knew, or should have known, the information furnished was incorrect or the information withheld was relevant to its request for certification, and which by reason of such certification has

been awarded this work order to which it would not otherwise have been entitled, shall:

1. Pay to the County any difference between the work order amount and what the County's costs would have been if the work order had been properly awarded;
2. In addition to the amount described in subdivision (1), be assessed a penalty in an amount of not more than 10 percent (10%) of the amount of the work order; and
3. Be subject to the provisions of Chapter 2.202 of the Los Angeles County Code (Determinations of Contractor Non-responsibility and Contractor Debarment).

The above penalties shall also apply to any entity that has previously obtained proper certification, however, as a result of a change in their status would no longer be eligible for certification, and fails to notify the certifying department of this information prior to responding to a solicitation or accepting a work order award.

(Paragraph 9.3 will only be included in contracts where the Proposer requested and was granted the DVBE preference.)

### **9.3 DISABLED VETERAN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PREFERENCE PROGRAM**

- 9.3.1 This Contract is subject to the provisions of the County's ordinance entitled Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Preference Program, as codified in Chapter 2.211 of the Los Angeles County Code.
- 9.3.2 Contractor shall not knowingly and with the intent to defraud, fraudulently obtain, retain, attempt to obtain or retain, or aid another in fraudulently obtaining or retaining or attempting to obtain or retain certification as a Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise.
- 9.3.3 Contractor shall not willfully and knowingly make a false statement with the intent to defraud, whether by affidavit, report, or other representation, to a County official or employee for the purpose of influencing the certification or

denial of certification of any entity as a Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise.

9.3.4 If Contractor has obtained certification as a Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise by reason of having furnished incorrect supporting information or by reason of having withheld information, and which knew, or should have known, the information furnished was incorrect or the information withheld was relevant to its request for certification, and which by reason of such certification has been awarded this contract to which it would not otherwise have been entitled, shall:

1. Pay to the County any difference between the contract amount and what the County's costs would have been if the contract had been properly awarded;
2. In addition to the amount described in subdivision (1), be assessed a penalty in an amount of not more than 10 percent of the amount of the contract; and
3. Be subject to the provisions of Chapter 2.202 of the Los Angeles County Code (Determinations of Contractor Non-responsibility and Contractor Debarment).

The above penalties shall also apply to any business that has previously obtained proper certification, however, as a result of a change in their status would no longer be eligible for certification, and fails to notify the state and ISD of this information prior to responding to a solicitation or accepting a contract award.

**AUTHORIZATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT FOR  
AS-NEEDED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has caused this Master Agreement to be executed by the Director/Commissioner of the Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Department or designee and approved by County Counsel, and Contractor has caused this Master Agreement to be executed in its behalf by its duly authorized officer, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Director

\_\_\_\_\_ Department

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Krattli  
County Counsel

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Counsel

**MASTER AGREEMENT FOR  
AS NEEDED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS OF EXHIBITS**

**STANDARD EXHIBITS**

- A     SAMPLE WORK ORDER**
- B     FORMS REQUIRED FOR EACH WORK ORDER BEFORE WORK BEGINS**

**STANDARD EXHIBITS NOT ATTACHED TO SAMPLE MASTER AGREEMENT**

- C     COUNTY'S ADMINISTRATION**
- D     CONTRACTOR'S ADMINISTRATION**
- E     CONTRACTOR'S EEO ADMINISTRATION**
- F     JURY SERVICE ORDINANCE**
- G     SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW**

**UNIQUE EXHIBITS (NOT ATTACHED TO SAMPLE MASTER AGREEMENT)**

- J     SUBSEQUENT EXECUTED WORK ORDERS**

**AS-NEEDED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
MASTER AGREEMENT WORK ORDER (SAMPLE)  
(FIXED PRICE PER DELIVERABLE BASIS)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(CONTRACTOR NAME)

Work Order No. \_\_\_\_\_ County Master Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_

Project Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Performance: \_\_\_\_\_

County Requesting Department: \_\_\_\_\_

County Project Director: \_\_\_\_\_

County Manager/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

I. GENERAL

Contractor shall satisfactorily perform all the work as detailed in the Statement of Work attached hereto as Exhibit 1 on a fixed price per deliverable basis, in compliance with the terms and conditions of Contractor's Master Agreement.

II. PERSONNEL

Contractor shall provide the personnel listed below:

Skill Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

III. PAYMENT

A. The Total Maximum Amount that County shall pay Contractor for work requested pursuant to this Work Order is:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Work Order No. \_\_\_\_\_ County Master Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_

B. Contractor shall submit all invoices under this Work Order to:

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Agricultural Commissioner/  
Weights and Measures  
12300 Lower Azusa Road  
Arcadia, CA 91006-5862  
Attention: Jo Anne Benavidez

IV. SERVICES

In accordance with Master Agreement Subparagraph 3.3, Contractor may not be paid for any task, deliverable, service, or other work that is not specified in this Work Order, and/or that utilizes personnel not specified in this Work Order, and/or that exceeds the Total Maximum Amount of this Work Order, and/or that goes beyond the expiration date of this Work Order. The Standard of Performance and/or determination of satisfactory completion of work performed by Contractor pursuant to a Work Order shall reside with the County.

ALL TERMS OF THE MASTER AGREEMENT SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT. THE TERMS OF THE MASTER AGREEMENT SHALL GOVERN AND TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY CONFLICTING TERMS AND/OR CONDITIONS IN THIS WORK ORDER. NEITHER THE RATES NOR ANY OTHER SPECIFICATIONS IN THIS WORK ORDER ARE VALID OR BINDING IF THEY DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE MASTER AGREEMENT.

Contractor's signature on this Work Order document confirms Contractor's awareness of and agreement with the provisions of Subparagraph 3.3 of the Master Agreement, which establish that Contractor shall not be entitled to any compensation whatsoever for any task, deliverable, service, or other work:

- A. That is not specified in this Work Order, and/or
- B. That utilizes personnel not specified in this Work Order, and/or
- C. That exceeds the Total Maximum Amount of this Work Order, and/or
- D. That goes beyond the expiration date of this Work Order.

REGARDLESS OF ANY ORAL PROMISE MADE TO CONTRACTOR BY ANY COUNTY PERSONNEL WHATSOEVER.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTRACTOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

By: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# **EXHIBIT B**

## **FORMS REQUIRED FOR EACH WORK ORDER**

### **BEFORE WORK BEGINS**

- B1 CERTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE STATUS
- B2 CERTIFICATION OF NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST

**AS-NEEDED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

**MASTER AGREEMENT WORK ORDER**

**CERTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE STATUS**

(Note: This certification is to be executed and returned to County with Contractor's executed Work Order. Work cannot begin on the Work Order until County receives this executed document.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTRACTOR NAME

Work Order No. \_\_\_\_\_ County Master Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_

I CERTIFY THAT: (1) I am an Authorized Official of Contractor; (2) the individual(s) named below is(are) this organization's employee(s); (3) applicable state and federal income tax, FICA, unemployment insurance premiums, and workers' compensation insurance premiums, in the correct amounts required by state and federal law, will be withheld as appropriate, and paid by Contractor for the individual(s) named below for the entire time period covered by the attached Work Order.

**EMPLOYEES**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**AS NEEDED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

**MASTER AGREEMENT WORK ORDER**

**CERTIFICATION OF NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

*(Note: This certification is to be executed and returned to County with Contractor's executed Work Order. Work cannot begin on the Work Order until County receives this executed document.)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTRACTOR NAME

Work Order No. \_\_\_\_\_ County Master Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_

Los Angeles County Code Section 2.180.010.A provides as follows:

**“Certain contracts prohibited.**

- A. Notwithstanding any other section of this code, the county shall not contract with, and shall reject any bid or proposal submitted by, the persons or entities specified below, unless the board of supervisors finds that special circumstances exist which justify the approval of such contract:
  - 1. Employees of the county or of public agencies for which the board of supervisors is the governing body;
  - 2. Profit-making firms or businesses in which employees described in subdivision 1 of subsection A serve as officers, principals, partners, or major shareholders;
  - 3. Persons who, within the immediately preceding 12 months, came within the provisions of subdivision 1 of subsection A, and who:
    - a. Were employed in positions of substantial responsibility in the area of service to be performed by the contract; or
    - b. Participated in any way in developing the contract or its service specifications; and
  - 4. Profit-making firms or businesses in which the former employees, described in subdivision 3 of subsection A, serve as officers, principals, partners, or major shareholders.”

Contractor hereby declares and certifies that no Contractor Personnel, nor any other person acting on Contractor's behalf, who prepared and/or participated in the preparation of the bid or proposal submitted for the Work Order specified above, is within the purview of County Code Section 2.180.010.A, above.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**MASTER AGREEMENT LIST**

- Apple Services, Inc. (Norwalk, CA)
- California Arbor Care, Inc. (Chino, CA)
- California Cut and Clearing, Inc. (Los Angeles, CA)
- Four Seasons Landscape and Construction (Castaic, CA)
- International Environmental Corporation (Panorama City, CA)
- Mariposa Landscapes, Inc. (Irwindale, CA)
- Pan American Brush Clearance, Inc. (Sherman Oaks, CA)
- RECON Environmental, Inc. (San Diego, CA)

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Search for an Open Bid

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- S T U V W X
- Y Z All

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Bid Title

Submit

Sort By

Bid Title

Sort

Bid Detail Information

**Bid Number :** AGR01023  
**Bid Title :** RFSQ for As-Needed Vegetation Management Services  
**Bid Type :** Service  
**Department :** Agricultural Comm/Weights-Measures  
**Commodity :** WEED AND VEGETATION CONTROL  
**Open Date :** 4/1/2014  
**Closing Date :** Continuous  
**Bid Amount :** N/A  
**Bid Download :** [Available](#)

**Bid Description :** The Los Angeles County, Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (ACWM) is seeking qualified vendors to enter into Master Agreements with the County to provide as-needed vegetation management services.

WHAT IS A MASTER AGREEMENT

A Master Agreement is a documented agreement between a vendor and the County which establishes the vendor's capability to perform specified services based on conformance with the County's minimum requirements, agreeing to the County's terms, verification of references/work performance history and other things. The County solicits Master Agreements through a Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) and interested vendors respond with their Statement of Qualifications (SOQ).

For this solicitation, Master Agreements will be executed with all vendors determined to be qualified thus allowing ACWM to develop a pool of pre-qualified vendors who can be called on to perform as-needed or intermittent work. When a job comes up, ACWM announces it to the pool of qualified vendors who may then submit a bid on the work. The qualified vendor with the lowest cost is usually awarded the work using a Work Order which, in most cases, includes a detailed Statement of Work. The execution of a Master Agreement does not guarantee a vendor any minimum amount of business and the County does not promise, warrant or guarantee that it will utilize any particular vendor's services or any services at all, during the term of the Master Agreement.

WHAT KIND OF WORK IS ACWM LOOKING FOR

The work under this Master Agreement will be performed to support ACWM's Weed Abatement Program which often requires cutting and removal of a considerable amount of dry weeds, brush, neglected landscaping and trees. Potential vendors can be qualified in one or all of three categories of work, depending on their experience, equipment and specialized certification/licensing. The RFSQ contains more information on the minimum requirements for each category of work.

TIMELINES

The RFSQ will be released April 1, 2014 and the initial deadline for submitting SOQs will be May 14, 2014 at 5:00 P.M. However, ACWM will continue to accept SOQs throughout the term of the Master Agreement.

**Amendment Date :** 4/14/2014 Addendum 1

**Download Available** Addendum 1 PDF 231.63 K [Addendum1RFSQAGR01023.pdf](#)

**Amendment Date :** 4/23/2014 Addendum 2

**Download Available** Addendum 2 PDF 615.55 K [Addendum2RFSQAGR01023.pdf](#)

**Contact Name :** Elizabeth Lopez

**Contact Phone# :** (626) 575-5462

**Contact Email :** [ELopez@acwm.lacounty.gov](mailto:ELopez@acwm.lacounty.gov)

**Last Changed On :** 4/2/2014 3:37:34 PM